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(71) Applicant: **FUJITSU LIMITED**
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa 211-8588 (JP)

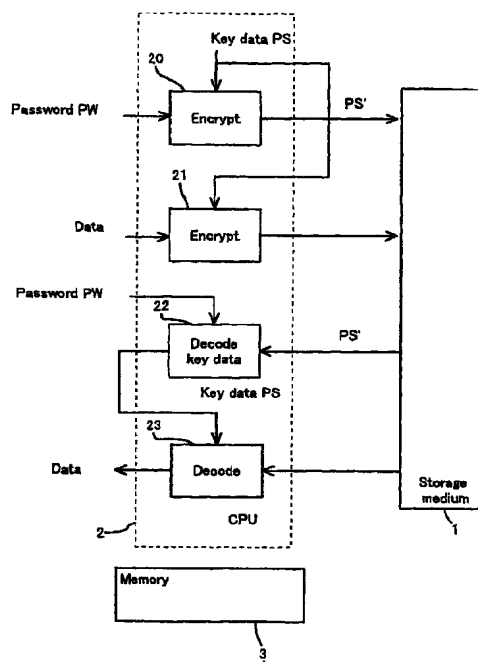
(72) Inventors:
• **Kobayashi, Hiroyuki**
c/o Fujitsu Limited
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa 211-8588 (JP)
• **Uchida, Yoshiaki**
c/o Fujitsu Limited
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa 211-8588 (JP)

(74) Representative:
Seeger, Wolfgang, Dipl.-Phys.
Georg-Hager-Strasse 40
81369 München (DE)

(54) **Method of and apparatus for protecting data on storage medium and storage medium**

(57) Disclosed are a method and an apparatus for protecting data on a storage medium by encrypting the data to be recorded on the storage medium with a password. This method comprises a step of, generating, for changing key data on each memory unit by one password, the key data, thereafter encrypting the key data with the password and writing the encrypted data to the storage medium, and a step of encrypting the data with the key data and encrypted data to the storage medium. The method further comprises a step of reading the encrypted key data from the storage medium, a step of decoding the encrypted key data with the password, and a step of decoding the data on the storage medium with the decoded key data. The encryption is done by using the key data generated separately from the password, and it is therefore feasible to prevent the password from being analyzed by decoding a cipher text.

FIG. 1



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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 July 2000	Examiner Moens, R
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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